

INFORMATI~~SECRET~~REPORT

COUNTRY Austria/USSR

DATE DISTR. 12 November 1948

SUBJECT Expected Increase in Pi
Electrical Equipment
25X1C

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The Walter Hitzinger Kommanditgesellschaft, a USIA electrical goods outlet in Linz, Upper Austria, is reported to have rented a large warehouse in Hoersching, near Linz, and to have acquired another in Linz itself for storing large numbers of electric motors. The reason given is that USIA expects a rise in prices in the near future, and is attempting to reduce sales and store as much of its production as possible until that time.
2. Acting on advice from the Creditanstalt, Elin A.G. is also reported to be curtailing sales and storing up large numbers of motors and other electrical equipment. In order to remain in production, Elin has obtained loans from the Creditanstalt against potential profits from sales of stored equipment after the anticipated increase in prices.

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Comment: It is not yet clear whether USIA and the Creditanstalt expect that the increase in prices will be limited to electrical products, or will be the result of a general inflation of the schilling. The factor which might be expected to bring about this inflation is not apparent. Elin's precarious financial situation was briefly reported in [REDACTED] 25X1A

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